Procedures and Systems in the Offices of Registrar of Companies

2782. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to initiate any steps to simplify the procedures and systems presently in vogue in all offices of Registrar of Companies;

(b) if so, the details of such steps taken in 1994-95;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is a huge backlog of work in the office of Registrar of Companies of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures proposed to improve the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a), (b) and (e) The Department of Company Affairs constituted a Review Committee to study the working of Offices of Registrars of Companies with a view to streamline their working and to suggest changes for simplification of procedures involved in dealing with documents filed by companies. The Committee has made a number of recommendations, *inter alia* for expediting the availability of names, registration of documents including charges and standardisation of additional fee. The Committee also suggested to take prospectus on record preferably on the date of filing or by next working day. Administrative instructions have been issued to all Registrars of Companies for implementing these recommendations on 16.2.1995 and the relevant rules have also been suitably amended in this regard.

(c) and (d) As on 31.12.1994, about 1,27,600 documents were pending with the Registrar of Companies, Andhra Pradesh. The pendency is primarily due to shortage of staff.

Changing the name of Madras High Court

2783. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of High Courts are in the name of their respective States;

(b) if so, the reasons for which the high court in Tamil Nadu continues to be called as Madras High Court even after the name of the State had been changed Tamil Nadu; and

(c) the reasons for which Government have not taken any steps to name the said High Court as the High Court of Tamil Nadu in spite of several representations on this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) There are 18 High Courts in the Country, 12 High Courts including Delhi are named after the States and the remaining 6 after the places where they are located.

(b) and (c) The proposal of the Government of Tamil Nadu for changing the name of the Madras High Court as Tamil Nadu High Court by undertaking Parliamentary legislation was considered, in consultation with the High Court. The High Court stated that there should not be any departure in the Madras High Court as regards name which has been governed by a charter as in the case of Calcutta and Bombay High Courts. It was not considered appropriate to change the name of the Madras High Court against its wishes.